



## **SPRING 2024 INFO SHEET**

### **OVERVIEW**

We are thrilled to be accepting applications for the L.A. Film Studies Center (LAFSC) program for the Spring 2024 semester. The program is currently a partnership between Olivet Nazarene University and the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU). It will run as a newly-formed CA 501(C)3 Nonprofit organization starting in the Spring 2025.

The program will provide:

1. A robust, faith-based, academic program for CCCU students, particularly designed to serve CCCU institutions who have built LAFSC into their degree tracks.
2. Instruction and administration by LAFSC faculty, staff, and alumni who are working professionals in the field and have connections to the Hollywood industry.
3. An updated version of the curriculum offered by LAFSC in previous semesters, with the same courses, course descriptions, and number of credit hours.
4. The opportunity to intern with a relevant, active entity in the film and television industry three days a week throughout the semester.
5. Access to special guests who are friends of the program and also leaders in their respective fields (producers, directors, writers, actors, etc.).
6. An on-the-ground, in-Los Angeles experience during which students will live in the Hollywood area, be introduced to the people and culture of the film and television industry, and develop a community with like-minded peers, mentors, and alumni.

## CURRICULUM AND SCHEDULE

The LAFSC curriculum is 16 credits and includes the following core courses:

1. **Faith and Artistic Development (3 CR):** This course investigates the connection between faith and the artistic development of the filmmaker by 1) probing the culture of Hollywood and the culture it spawns, its challenges, ethics, expectations, and gifts, 2) delving into our own lives and looking at issues of identity and purpose, and 3) exploring how we might live out the best version of ourselves as an artist. What does our art, our storytelling, editing, cinematography, directing, or producing reveal about us? How shall we then create? How shall we then live?
2. **Hollywood Production Workshop (4 CR):** This production-heavy course, allows students to make a short film project utilizing Hollywood locations, resources, and protocol. Students will work collaboratively in groups and focus on creating a festival-ready short film, including all the legal documentation, rights, and deliverables for distribution and marketing. The course will offer technical tutorials for each production position as well as a production component.
3. **Internship: Inside Hollywood (6 CR):** This course will include a three-day-a-week internship, totaling 18-24 hours a week, that will be secured in partnership between individual students and the LAFSCinternship-coordinator/faculty member, who will be responsible for managing the internship experience and hours. The supplemental aspects of the course will include career coaching, resume design, and portfolio building, as well as typical reflection-style assignments, readings, and discussions throughout the semester.

Additionally, students will choose from one of the following electives:

1. **Narrative Storytelling (3CR):** This course concentrates on the art form of narrative storytelling, placing special emphasis on the visual aspect of the discipline and will be useful in developing students in the directorial aspect of filmmaking. The course will cover topics ranging from the history of story in cultureand film to the mechanics of story creation to the development of story-writing skills. Students will have the opportunity to hone their narrative analysis skills and make short films that demonstrate their ability to utilize storytelling theory on screen regardless of the production equipment available to them.
2. **Professional Screenwriting (3CR):** This course immerses students into the world of writing for film and television, the over-arching objective being to teach students how to create intellectual properties (IPs) and write commercially-viable stories sought after by Hollywood. A strict focus is placed on story structure and certain key narrative tropes that will take students' craft to the next level and prepare them for writing in the competitive world of the film and television industry.

3. **Acting for the Camera (3 CR):** This advanced workshop in the practice and process of acting for the camera is aimed at students who have a desire to pursue acting as a career. Instruction includes an overview of acting techniques and thorough discussion of the business of acting. The class consists of acting scene work with some scenes being filmed and critiqued. Students will also be required to pursue roles in student and independent films. Several class sessions throughout the course will be devoted to the business of acting for film and television in the Hollywood entertainment industry with an emphasis given to developing the materials and relationships necessary for a successful career.

**Start Date:** Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**End Date:** Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

- Courses will be conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Internship hours will be Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- Students will have off Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday. LAFSC does not observe a “Spring Break.”

### **COURSE ENROLLMENT/TUITION**

APPLICATIONS ARE **NOW OPEN** for Spring 2024!

*To Apply:*

<https://form.jotform.com/applylafsc/2024-application-welcome>

*For More Information About LAFSC:*

<https://lafilmstudies.org>

**Application Deadline: Wednesday, November 1st, 2023**

In addition to typical short and long-form application questions, students will need to submit:

- An unofficial, electronic version of their current transcript
- One online recommendation from an academic reference and one from a personal reference for a total of two references.
- A creative sample via link or email.

## **PROGRAM COSTS**

Instructional fees are \$13,150 and housing fees are \$6,750 for a total of **\$19,900**. Food is not included in the program fees, and it is recommended that students budget approximately \$100 a week for groceries/meals. As before, each institution's own financial aid policies will uniquely apply to the program costs at the institution's discretion. Students will also need to adhere to their home institution's policies and procedures regarding off-campus study.

Once students have been accepted into the program, they will need to confirm their enrollment prior to attendance by completing a set of "post-decision" materials, including two deposits: a \$300 program deposit that acts as a down-payment on the program fees, and a \$700 housing deposit, \$650 of which is refundable, dependent upon condition of the students' apartment upon move-out.

Please contact the LAFSC Director Chris Retts at [ccretts@olivet.edu](mailto:ccretts@olivet.edu) as early as possible regarding any concern over being able to afford LAFSC.

## **STUDENT LIFE, HOUSING, AND FACILITIES**

Students enrolled in the program will agree to abide by the Olivet Lifestyle Covenant and policies and procedures which will be adapted for an LAFSC Student Handbook to be provided to accepted students in the weeks leading up to the program. During LAFSC orientation, students will be expected to sign that they have read, understand, and agreed to abide by the LAFSC Student Handbook.

LAFSC will secure short-term leases for 2BR/2BA apartments from local properties near the LAFSC facilities. Previous apartments have been provided by Avalon ([www.avaloncommunities.com](http://www.avaloncommunities.com)), Park La Brea ([www.parklabrea.com/home](http://www.parklabrea.com/home)), and Essex ([www.essexapartmenthomes.com/apartments](http://www.essexapartmenthomes.com/apartments)).

Apartments will house students of the same gender and residential rules will be in line with Olivet's traditional residential expectations. Basic furniture such as beds, dressers, a dining table w/chairs, couch, side tables, etc., will be provided in addition to things like TVs, microwaves, toasters, dishware, etc.

In order to provide students with the most real-world, "embedded" Hollywood experience, LAFSC is run out of facilities on working studio lots. As availability on these lots shifts and varies in the months prior to the semester, we aren't yet ready to announce the location of the LAFSC facilities for Spring 2024, but Spring 2023 facilities were located at the historic Sunset Las Palmas Studios (<https://www.sunsetstudios.com/los-angeles/>).

## **SPRING 2023 SNAPSHOT**

Some highlights from the Spring 2023 semester include:

- Students from 15 different colleges and universities across the country.
- Classes held on a working studio lot that has served as the shooting location for over a century of film and television, from I LOVE LUCY and THE ADDAMS FAMILY to LA LA LAND and WIZARDS OF WAVERLY PLACE.
- Faculty with both a first-hand knowledge of LAFSC and the industry as professionals working with Apple+, NBC/Universal, MarVista Entertainment, Monkeypaw Productions, and John Legend’s Get Lifted Film Company, among others.
- Internships including positions with Anaheim Studios, Butter, AbelCine, The Geena Davis Institute, Hollywood Prayer Network, and HollyShorts Film Festival.
- Several Spring 2023 students have already accepted work in the industry over the summer thanks to either to their internships or through contacts made while studying at LAFSC, with several more planning to return to Los Angeles over the coming year.

## **BEST CONTACTS**

### ***At the L.A. Film Studies Center (LAFSC):***

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### ***At Olivet Nazarene University (ONU):***

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### ***At the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU):***

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